

Message Text

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ACTION SAB-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 TRSE-00 /050 W

-----044656 160118Z /72

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3181

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5818

FROM AMBASSADOR JORDEN FOR AMBASSADOR BUNKER

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ELAB, PN, PQX

SUBJECT: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS - US EMPLOYEES

1. THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE AMONG THE PANCANAL WORKFORCE OF BOTH NATIONALITIES IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT (SEPTTEL). THE RETURN VISIT BY DICK WYROUGH, WHICH I RECOMMENDED OVER THE WEEKEND, WILL HELP. THE DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET ON THE TREATY, WHICH IS BEING DISTRIBUTED WIDELY BY GOVERNOR PARFITT AMONG HIS EMPLOYEES, IS ALSO OF ASSISTANCE.

2. HOWEVER, TWO PINTS OF VERY SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO THE US-CITIZEN EMPLOYEES, ON WHICH THERE IS NOW AGREEMENT WITH PANAMA, HAVE NOT YET BEEN PUBLICLY DISCUSSED: HOUSING AND DEPENDENT SCHOOLS. THESE ARE HARDLY OF SUCH GENERAL MOMENT TO WARRANT INCLUSION IN A STATEMENT INTENDED FOR U.S. DOMESTIC NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION. BUT I BELIEVE THAT ENABLING GOVERNOR PARFITT TO SAY SOMETHING FOR THE RECORD ABOUT THEM, ON BEHALF OF THE U.S. NEGOTIATORS, WILL BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE IN AVERTING PROBLEMS IN THE ZONE.

3. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY PREPARE AND APPROVE FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ON-THE-RECORD USE A STATEMENT CONFIRMING THAT PANAMA HAS AGREED TO EDUCATION OF US-CITIZEN CIVILIAN PANCANAL

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DEPENDENTS IN THE US-OPERATED MILITARY SCHOOL SYSTEM UNDER THE NEW TREATY. ON HOUSING, I SUGGEST THAT HE BE ENABLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT NO PROVISION OF OUR AGREEMENT WITH PANAMA WOULD REQUIRE ANY CURRENT EMPLOYEE TO MOVE TO ANOTHER LOCATION IN THE CANAL ZONE AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE TREATY.

4. BOTH OF THESE CONCERNS, AS DICK CAN CONFIRM TO YOU, APPEARED

VERY STRONGLY AT HIS MEETING IN THE ZONE. THERE ARE SOME THINGS
THAT WE CANNOT YET APPROPRIATELY ADDRESS FOR THE PUBLIC
RECORD. BUT I BELIEVE THAT THESE TWO SHOULD BE DEALT WITH
PROMPTLY AND PUBLICLY.

JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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